

1 **ABSTRACT**

2 Methods and arrangements are provided for use in multiple user computing
3 environments. These methods and arrangements can be configured to allow for a
4 plurality of separate and concurrent desktops and workspaces within the shared
5 computing environment. One method includes creating a separate desktop thread
6 for each user that is authenticated during a logon process, creating a separate
7 desktop associated with each desktop thread, and maintaining a list of desktop
8 threads that are created. In this manner, several users can be logged on
9 simultaneously. In certain implementations, the method further includes
10 establishing a separate user environment associated with each desktop and
11 launching a separate user shell associated with each desktop. The list of desktop
12 threads allows for selective and/or automatic switching from a first desktop to a
13 second desktop without terminating a desktop thread associated with the first
14 desktop. The methods and arrangements are also applicable to remote process
15 logon and switching.

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